

TransAM Data Integrity Project - Summary

Over the past year, DRPT staff have completed an extensive review of categorical data fields in TransAM in an effort to improve consistency in how Virginia transit vehicles are categorized in the database. The extent of the data review and changes in the system are outlined in this summary sheet.

Changes to how data is entered and to existing vehicle records as a result of this project will go live in the TransAM 2.16 update on September 22, 2021.

Project Focus

This review focused on three “categorical” fields associated with each vehicle asset in the system:

- **Class** – Overall grouping of assets (i.e. Buses – Rubber Tire Vehicles, Rail Cars, Equipment)
- **Type** – FTA designated vehicle type for federal programs and TAM planning
- **Sub-Type** – Defines the character of a vehicle and dictates the DRPT approved replacement policies

These fields combined allow DRPT and transit agency staff to identify exactly what each vehicle in the system is and dictate the state approved replacement policies assigned.

Project Goals

In an effort to more accurately categorize all vehicle assets in the TransAM system, the Data Integrity project aimed to accomplish the following goals:

1. **Update DRPT Sub-Type Options –**
Create a new list of sub-type options that more accurately represent the Virginia transit fleet that incorporate the duty and specific characteristics of the vehicles.
2. **Create a “Hierarchy Mapping” between Class, Type, and Sub-type fields –**
This will reduce the potential for data entry errors and inconsistencies by limiting the options available in the system based on previously selected categorical options. This means that once a specific Class is selected, the options available for Type would be limited to those associated with the selected Class, and the Sub-type options would be limited to those associated with the selected Type.
3. **Assign All Vehicles a New Sub-Type Designation –**
Once new Sub-type options were defined and hierarchies set, each vehicle currently in TransAM was assigned the appropriate option. This addresses issues with the way that assets were previously classified in the system and ensures that the same kinds of vehicles are grouped together for analysis purposes. This also allows staff to identify vehicles that were in a Sub-type category previously that did not reflect accurate replacement policies that should have been assigned to that vehicle.
 - **Example:** Many Heavy Duty, 28 and 29 foot buses were previously categorized as “Bus < 30 feet”, which is assigned a replacement policy of 4 years or 100,000 miles. In reality these vehicles should be assigned a replacement policy of 10 years or 350,000 miles, so they were assigned a new more accurate sub-type.

New Revenue Vehicle Sub-type Options

The following table contains the new revenue vehicle Sub-type options available in TransAM, along with the Type designation and assigned replacement policies – Minimum Service Life and Minimum Service Miles.

Asset Type	Asset Sub-type	Min Service Life (Years)	Min Service Miles
Automobile	Light Duty, Sedan/Station Wagon	4	100,000
Sports Utility Vehicle	Light Duty, Sport Utility Vehicles	4	100,000
Minivan	Light Duty, Minivan	4	100,000
Van	Light Duty, Passenger Van	4	100,000
Cutaway	Light Duty, Small BOC	4	100,000
Cutaway	Light Duty, Medium BOC	4	100,000
Cutaway	Medium Duty, Medium BOC	7	200,000
Cutaway	Medium Duty, Large BOC	7	200,000
Bus	Heavy Duty, Small Bus/BOC	10	350,000
Bus	Heavy Duty, Small Bus	10	350,000
Bus	Heavy Duty, Large Bus	12	500,000
Over-the-road Bus	Heavy Duty, Commuter/Intercity Bus	12	500,000
Articulated Bus	Heavy Duty, Articulated Bus	12	500,000
Bus	Heavy Duty, Dual Mode Bus	12	500,000

For information on how assets were sorted into these new sub-type categories, and how to select the correct sub-type designation for new vehicles entered into TransAM please see the “[TransAM Sub-Type Selection Guide](#)” which can be found on the [OLGA News and Information](#) page.

New Support Vehicle Sub-type Options

The following table contains the new support vehicle Sub-type options available in TransAM, with assigned replacement policies. Rather than redefining the list of Sub-type options available, TransAM will now simply contain more specific options for support vehicles.

Asset Type	Asset Sub-type	Min Service Life (Years)	Min Service Miles
Support Vehicles	Sedan/Station Wagon	4	100,000
Support Vehicles	Van	4	100,000
Support Vehicles	Pickup/Utility Truck	4	100,000
Support Vehicles	Sports Utility Vehicle	4	100,000
Support Vehicles	Other Support Vehicle	4	100,000
Support Vehicles	Tow Truck	10	100,000
Support Vehicles	Dump Truck	10	100,000
Support Vehicles	Wrecker	10	100,000
Support Vehicles	Cleaning Vehicle	10	100,000
Support Vehicles	Forklift	10	N/A
Support Vehicles	Steel Wheel Support Vehicles	25	N/A